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C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 001125

SIPDIS

NEA/ARP, NEA/I, NEA/IR FOR YOUNG, DRL/MLGA FOR SICADE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/10/2018

TAGS: PREL PHUM IR KU

SUBJECT: KUWAIT WILL CONSIDER USG POSITIONS ON IRAN HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION AND NO-ACTION MOTIONS

REF: STATE 118150

Classified By: Political Counselor Pete O'Donohue for reasons 1.4 b and d

¶1. (C) POLCOUNS on November 11 raised reftel points with Hamad Bu Rahamah, Counselor in MFA's Department of International Organizations, urging GOK support for human rights resolutions on Iran, Burma and the DPRK and asking the GOK to oppose no-action motions designed to derail these resolutions. In delivering the demarche, POLCOUNS noted that a strong human rights resolution on Iran is one of the USG's highest priorities for the UNGA Third Committee, while stressing that resolutions on Burma and the DPRK are also very important.

¶2. (C) In response, Bu Rahamah said the GOK is constrained to tread carefully on issues related to Iran given its close geographic proximity to Kuwait, but shares USG concerns about human rights abuses there. Bu Rahamah indicated he also appreciated USG concerns about the misuse of no-action motions as a means to stifle valid resolutions. With these concerns in mind, Bu Rahamah said he would convey a recommendation through his chain of command urging GOK support for USG positions on these resolutions.

¶3. (C) Comment: Given the GOK's weak past record on no-action motions on Iran and Burma, the Department may wish to continue to press the Kuwaiti delegation at UNGA on these points. Ambassador will follow up at the next appropriate opportunity.

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